



30 Bank Street
PO Box 350
New Britain
CT 06050-0350
06051 for 30 Bank Street
P: (860) 223-4400
F: (860) 223-4488

Testimony of

John Ivimey, Vice Chair
Estates and Probate Section
Connecticut Bar Association

In SUPPORT of

House Bill 5407
An Act Concerning Probate Fees

Judiciary Committee
March 12, 2010

Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee to comment on certain revisions to the Connecticut probate court fees proposed in **House Bill 5407, An Act Concerning Probate Fees**.

My name is John R. Ivimey. I am a stockholder at Reid and Riege, P.C. and chairman of a special committee of the Estates and Probate Section of the Connecticut Bar Association tasked with challenging the imposition of a statutory probate court fee based on assets of decedents over which the court has no jurisdiction and that are not subject to the Connecticut estate tax.

Although there are a number of such assets, the categories of assets that we are most concerned about are real estate located outside Connecticut, in the estates of Connecticut residents, and assets other than Connecticut real estate and Connecticut tangible personal property in the ancillary estates of nonresidents. Over the past few years we have recommended a change in the law that would protect Connecticut residents from the imposition of a probate court fee on out-of-state real and tangible property.

We believe that **House Bill 5407, An Act Concerning Probate Fees**, in Section 1 (b) addresses these problems.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on and express our support for **House Bill 5407, An Act Concerning Probate Fees**. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.